

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 have been canceled, and claims 24-42 have been added based on the disclosure at, e.g. page 36, line 13 to page 37, line 1 in the specification. Applicants note that the term "photoconductive" has been corrected to "photosensitive" in the amendment. In this regard, Applicants note that the "photosensitive transfer material" and "photosensitive resin layer" were erroneously translated as "photoconductive transfer material" and "photoconductive resin layer" when the present application was filed. In particular, the specification described that a photoconductive transfer material comprises a photoconductive resin layer, the photoconductive resin layer is exposed to radiation, and the layer is developed with the alkaline aqueous solution (see page 36, line 18 - page 37, line 1). The specification also described that the photoconductive resin layer is formed by the resin composition for spacer of the present invention (see page 22, lines 3-4). Moreover, Examples in the specification precisely described that a coating liquid for a photoconductive resin layer are coated, exposed and developed so as to form a columnar transparent pixel-patterned spacer. From the descriptions in the specification, Applicants submit that the specification inherently supports that the photoconductive transfer material and photoconductive resin layer are in fact a photosensitive transfer material and photosensitive resin layer, respectively. Further, it is submitted that one skilled in the art would have recognized the existence of the errors in the specification and would have also recognized the appropriate corrections.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that no new matter is added, and entry of the above amendments is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, Second Paragraph

On page 2 of the Office Action, in paragraph 3, claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

In response, and to expedite allowance, claim 18 has been canceled, and thus withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Art Rejections

On page 3 of the Office Action, in paragraph 5, claims 1-5, 18-19, 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Totsuka et al. On page 4 of the Office Action, in paragraph 6, claims 1-15, 18-19, 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Furukawa. On page 7 of the Office Action, in paragraph 8, claims 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Totsuka as applied to claims 1-5, 18-19, 23 above, and further in view of Hashimoto et al. On page 8 of the Office Action, in paragraph 9, claims 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Furukawa as applied to claims 1-15, 18-19, 23 above, and further in view of Hashimoto et al. On page 9 of the Office Action, in paragraph 10, claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato et al in view of Furukawa. On page 10 of the Office Action, in paragraph 11, claims 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato in view of Furukawa as applied to claim 21 above, and further in view of Jones.

In response, and to expedite allowance, Applicants have canceled all of the rejected claims, thereby obviating the art rejections. Further, Applicants submit that none of the cited

references teaches or suggests the method of forming a spacer of the present invention, and thus the rejections under §102(b), 102(e) and 103(a) should be withdrawn. Accordingly, withdrawal of the art rejections is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER



Bruce E. Kramer
Registration No. 33,725

Date: October 25, 2005